

Michael D. Stover from Mansfield. Major Stover died on June 3, 2006, while serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. He was the executive officer for the Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, based in Twentynine Palms, CA. He was 43 years old.

Major Stover is survived by his sister and his brother-in-law, Cheryl and Kim Meister, and by his brother, retired MAJ Edward Allen Stover. He also leaves to cherish his memory many nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents LaVern "Smoky" and Doris Stover.

Michael Stover craved adventure from the time he was a boy. His sister Cheryl remembers that her baby brother's nickname was "Monkey," "because he was always falling out of trees, breaking his arm, riding bicycles and flying over the handlebars and ending up in hospitals." Michael grew up an avid outdoorsman, joining the Boy Scouts and quickly rising in their ranks. He wrestled while in junior high and always sought out physical activities that pushed him as an individual.

In 1980, Michael graduated from Malabar High School in Mansfield. Michael was an excellent student and though there were many career paths he could have chosen, his older sister and brother weren't surprised when he decided to enlist in the Marines. They had watched him grow up and knew that the Marines provided the kind of adventure and physical challenge he had always loved. As his sister Cheryl explained: "Anything that was exciting or extreme, Michael had to be involved in."

Although Michael's parents—aware of their son's love for books and literature—were initially skeptical of his decision to become a Marine, it quickly became a source of pride for them. Michael remained close to his family throughout his time in the service, calling and writing frequently.

After enlisting, Michael reported for recruit training at Parris Island in January 1981. This was only his first step in a military career that exemplified the core Marine values of honor, courage, and commitment.

Books and reading had always been important to Michael, and as a Marine he was able to use his talent for writing and communicating. He was designated a Public Affairs Marine and underwent training at the Defense Information School, where he learned how to tell the stories of the U.S. Marine Corps. He then completed an enlisted tour with the Fleet Hometown News Center in Norfolk, VA, which sends out press releases on Marine achievements.

According to his brother Edward, Michael hadn't joined the Marines intending to make the military his career. But, he fell in love with the service and decided to stay so that he could become an officer. He accepted a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Marine Option scholarship and was released from active duty so that he could attend the Ohio State University.

Not surprisingly, Michael was a leader at OSU. He became a residential assistant, a position in which he was an important role model for incoming freshmen. It was his job to guide those younger than he and used his Marine training to do it. His residents looked up to him, not only as a resource, but also as a friend and even a big brother.

Michael graduated from OSU in 1990 with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism. He was then commissioned as a Marine Corps 2LT and became a logistics officer in an engineer support battalion—eventually serving as platoon and then company commander.

After then being promoted to Captain, Michael served as a logistics officer while also attending the Amphibious Warfare School from July 1994 to June 1997. From 1998–2005, he then served in different capacities in California, Hawaii, and Arizona. Throughout these years, Michael was a leader and an educator for young marines, helping to shape and mold the following generation.

Lieutenant Chris Kaprielian was just one of the many young marines who Major Stover inspired. This is how he described his former commander:

[Major Stover] was like a father to our [operations] section. The amount of knowledge he brought in from his prior experiences in the Marine Corps was incredible. Like a father, he looked out for the men in his command. And like a father, he was very demanding.

He particularly remembers Major Stover's commitment to duty. "We all worked really long hours," he said, "but he was there before anyone else and stayed even later. I never knew anyone who worked as hard as he did."

Michael was serving as the executive officer for the Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 when the squadron was deployed to Iraq in February 2005. After returning to the United States the next September, he was then temporarily assigned to another squadron in October. The Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 was preparing to deploy to Iraq—and Major Stover was needed to help prepare the marines for war.

His sister Cheryl remembers his exact words. "It's my job," he said. "If I don't go, young Marines will be dying. I can go and prevent their deaths." No other words better represent Major Stover's selfless and compassionate commitment to the young men and women whom he could train to become excellent marines. With his actions, he was saving lives every day.

The day Michael died, our Nation tragically lost a wonderful brother, a caring mentor, and a truly outstanding marine. At the time of his death, Michael had been recently selected for promotion to the rank of lieutenant colonel. His brother Edward—a retired major with the Ohio National Guard—knew it was a promotion that he richly deserved. It would have been the first time that Michael outranked his older brother. Edward eagerly anticipated his brother's promotion. "You'll never

know how proudly I looked forward to that time," he said.

Major Stover's 26-year career of leadership and fortitude earned him more decorations and honors than I can name here. They include the Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and the Iraq Campaign Medal. But his best reward, perhaps, is simply the respect and admiration felt by all who knew him.

At Michael's funeral, numerous mourners gathered to pay their respects to the departed marine, paying tribute to the lifetime he spent teaching the young marines who would come after him. Reverend David Pound said that Michael "took great pride in the young Marines that he could teach and develop." And, LTC Phillip Woody, Michael's commanding officer, said this:

The only way for a mortal man to be immortal is to teach. Those you teach will remember you forever. Mike will be remembered forever. It was an honor to call him a friend. It was an honor to call him a comrade.

The world is a better place since Michael Stover has been in it. He was a brave man, with a genuine commitment to service, leadership, education, and excellence. His dedication to his country was tremendous and his commitment to his fellow service members was unparalleled. My wife Fran and I continue to keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VOINOVICH). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask I be allowed to speak as in morning business for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I have listened carefully to our colleague from Ohio, spending his few minutes in the Senate talking about brave men and women who serve our country. It is the mark of our colleague from Ohio, the kind of person he is—not just the kind of Senator he is—that he would come to the floor of the Senate in his last few days as a Member of this institution and focus on others, focus on those who have given the ultimate for their families, for our country and for our future. It shows us, once again, that Senator DEWINE is the consummate Senator.

I am here this afternoon to recognize and thank and pay tribute to our colleagues who will be leaving the Senate. They are a varied group. Again, I can think of no finer example of this group of public servants than one of Senator DEWINE's last speeches in the Senate to recognize others.

I thank you, Senator DEWINE, for your service.

As we recognize, it is a distinct privilege and high honor to serve our country. It is a distinct privilege and high

honor to serve our country in any capacity, and certainly none higher than in uniform. But it is especially important we recognize those who have given years of their lives, sacrificing their families, their own time, to help make a better world for all of us. I know of no capacity in which we serve our country that has given those who have had this rare opportunity to serve in the Senate anything more noble than trying to shape a better world from this Senate.

These individuals who will leave the Senate, some on their own terms, some on the terms of the election, but, nonetheless, in their own specific way have contributed a great deal to this country.

I take a few minutes to recognize each. I start with our colleague, your dear friend, former lieutenant governor, the senior Senator from Ohio. I need not tell the distinguished Presiding Officer what Senator DEWINE has meant to his State and to this country. I had the privilege of serving on the Intelligence Committee with Senator DEWINE for 4 years. I have teamed up with Senator DEWINE over the years on many legislative matters. I don't know of an individual who cares more, contributes more, to what they believe, than Senator DEWINE. His years of service in the House, the Senate, and as lieutenant governor are to be recognized. We should thank him and tell him that we will miss him and we will especially miss a friend.

Senator PAUL SARBANES, the longest serving Senator in Maryland, serving five terms in the Senate, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1970. I first got acquainted with Senator SARBANES not as a Senator but as a young staff member, chief of staff to a congressman from Nebraska, John McCollister, who also had been elected to the House in 1970.

I have had the privilege of serving on two committees for the last 10 years with Senator SARBANES—on the Foreign Relations Committee and the Committee on Banking. His courtesies to me, his sharp, defined intellect, his ability to dissect problems and focus on a resolution, will be greatly missed in this institution. We wish the Sarbaneses continued success and a little rest.

Senator JIM JEFFORDS, from Vermont. Not many former chief justices of their State have served in this Senate. He is one. Senator JEFFORDS, in his long, distinguished service to our country, served as Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, served in the House of Representatives, and then served here in the Senate. He served our country in the U.S. Navy. JIM JEFFORDS' life has been about service.

I had an opportunity to get acquainted particularly with Senator JEFFORDS and work closely with him on the Individuals with Disability Education Act, IDEA. There has been no one in this Senate over the last 25 years more committed to education for

our young people than JIM JEFFORDS. We will miss JIM JEFFORDS.

Senator CONRAD BURNS. The best thing we can say about Senator BURNS is he married a girl from Nebraska. His wife Phyllis is from North Platte. Senator BURNS represents some of the best the West has to offer. He will be the longest serving Republican Senator in Montana history. His background is varied: distinguished entrepreneur, broadcaster, and that which he is most proud of, a U.S. marine.

I have had the honor of working with Senator BURNS on a number of bills and occasions, many related to agriculture and the cattle industry. For Senator BURNS' service to our country, we thank him. We will miss him.

Senator RICK SANTORUM one of the leaders of the majority in the Senate the last few years, from Pennsylvania, came to the Senate in 1994 and helped shape a different agenda. He believed fervently in the power of the institution to change the world and felt deeply about issues.

I served on the Committee on Banking with Senator SANTORUM for many years and came to respect the junior Senator from Pennsylvania. I have a high regard for his ability to work through the big issues.

For service to our country, both the House and the Senate, thank you, Senator SANTORUM. We will miss you.

Senator LINC CHAFEE. Senator CHAFEE comes from a long line of public servants from the State of Rhode Island. The name "Chafee" is a famous name in this institution. His father John Chafee was one of the great Senators in this Senate in the 20th century. LINC picked up where his father left off.

I had the opportunity to serve with Senator CHAFEE on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We sat next to each other for many years. He had a keen ability to cut through the fog, the nonsense, the superficial, the obsequious, and get to the real issues. We will miss that ability. We will miss that laser. I am sorry to see Senator CHAFEE leave. He will continue to serve his country in many areas as he has done before his service in the Senate.

Senator GEORGE ALLEN. We will miss footballs. Many of my colleagues received footballs. He was a quarterback for the Cavaliers at the University of Virginia and he could throw almost as well as even a Nebraska quarterback.

Senator ALLEN, for a very young man, has a very distinguished record of public service, serving as the Governor of the great State of Virginia, serving in the House of Representatives, serving in the U.S. Senate. I served on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with Senator ALLEN for many years, and I will miss his ability to say it clearly and plainly. And his leadership position within the Republican majority, which he served so ably, will be missed.

Senator MARK DAYTON from Minnesota, a neighbor. I served on two

committees with Senator DAYTON, the Rules Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee. He is a unique individual who served in many ways, beginning with his service to Senator and then Vice President Walter Mondale. Senator DAYTON has a rich history and understanding of this institution and his State. We will miss Senator DAYTON's character, his ability to also cross party aisles and help resolve the issues of our day.

Senator JIM TALENT from Missouri has had 14 years of service in the House and Senate. I worked very closely with Senator TALENT on his bill, the Combat Methamphetamine Act. I believe it is one of the most significant, relevant, important bills to pass the 109th Congress. He, too, will be missed. No one worked harder than Jim Talent for the interests of his State. He understands agriculture, he understands energy like very few in his State. He began his service to his country and to the State of Missouri at the age of 28, when he was elected to the House of Representatives. We will continue to hear more from JIM TALENT.

I conclude my recognition of our colleagues who will be leaving us at the end of this Congress by recognizing our leader, Senator BILL FRIST, from Tennessee.

Senator FRIST has been referred to, as we all are, in many ways and in many terms. "Renaissance man" has been one of those terms that have described BILL FRIST. This is a unique individual. This is a man whose life has much been about serving others.

For his leadership in the Senate during a very difficult time, this body owes him a great deal of thanks and gratitude. He will go on to continue to do significant things with his ability, his talent, his life, and we wish him well. We will miss him. We will miss his ability to, in an always steady way, help reach a consensus.

Mr. President, in conclusion, it is not easy to put one's self on the firing line and offer one's self as a candidate for any office. It takes a certain amount of courage and, I suspect, a little dose of insanity. But nonetheless individuals who believe deeply enough to commit themselves to a cause greater than their own self-interests need to be recognized. Having nothing to do with me or you or any one individual, but it is the essence of our country, it is the very fabric of our democracy that makes it all work and probably gives rise to, more than any one reason, why we have been such a successful nation for over 200 years—because people from all walks of life, in every community, in every State, offer themselves for office. Whether it is a mayor, a Governor, city councilman, county official, a sheriff, these individuals deserve recognition.

We all make mistakes. That is who we are. But in the end, it is not unlike what Teddy Roosevelt once referred to in his magnificent quote about the man in the arena. And it is the man and the

woman in the arena who change our lives. It makes a better world that shapes history, that defines our destiny. And for these individuals who will no longer have that opportunity to serve our country in the Senate, we wish them well, we thank them, and we tell them we are proud of them and their families and wish them Godspeed.

Mr. President, I thank you for the time and yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 2:20 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5384, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5384) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, \$10,515,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$11,000 of this amount shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Chief Economist, including economic analysis, risk assessment, cost-benefit analysis, energy and new uses, and the functions of the World Agricultural Outlook Board, as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622g), \$11,226,000.

NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, \$14,795,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, \$8,479,000.

HOMELAND SECURITY STAFF

For necessary expenses of the Homeland Security Staff, \$954,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, \$16,936,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$11,667,000, of which \$5,676,000 shall be available until expended: Provided, That no funds made available by this appropriation may be obligated for FAIR Act or Circular A-76 activities until the Secretary has submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the Department's contracting out policies, including agency budgets for contracting out.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, \$836,000.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$22,650,000.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, \$681,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND RENTAL PAYMENTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 486, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, \$209,814,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$155,851,000 shall be available for payments to the General Services Administration for rent and the Department of Homeland Security for building security: Provided, That amounts which are made available for space rental and related costs for the Department of Agriculture in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations to cover the costs of additional, new, or replacement space 15 days after notice thereof is transmitted to the Appropriations Committees of both Houses of Congress.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), \$12,020,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For Departmental Administration, \$24,114,000, to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department: Provided, That this appropriation shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551-558.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch, \$3,830,000: Provided, That these funds may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: Provided further, That no funds made available by this appropriation may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency: Provided further, That no other funds appropriated to the Department by this Act shall be available to the Department for support of activities of congressional relations.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out services relating to the coordination of programs involving public affairs, for the dissemination of agricultural information, and the coordination of information, work, and programs authorized by Congress in the Department, \$9,695,000: Provided, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 may be used for farmers' bulletins.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$82,493,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$40,647,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMICS

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics to administer the laws enacted by the Congress for the Economic Research Service, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, \$605,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service in conducting economic research and analysis, \$75,963,000.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in conducting statistical reporting and service work, \$148,719,000, of which up to \$36,582,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Agricultural Research Service to perform agricultural research and demonstration relating to production, utilization, marketing, and distribution (not otherwise provided for); home economics or nutrition and consumer use including the acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of agricultural information; and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership,